

STONE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

TOGETHER WITH THE REPORT OF THE

SENIOR

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

**FOR THE YEAR 1958**



STONE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORTS

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

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To the Chairman and Members of the Stone Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

In accordance with the instructions of the Minister of Health, I herewith present the Annual Report of the Stone Urban District Council for the year 1958.

From the general body of the Report I have abstracted several items for your attention.

- (i) Decrease in the population from 8,820 to 8,800.
- (ii) Decrease in total number of deaths from all causes from 146 to 113 (164 in 1956).
- (iii) Number of deaths from Malignant Diseases of the Lungs and Bronchus is the same as in 1957 - namely 3 (3 in 1956).
- (iv) Number of deaths from Coronary Diseases is the same as in 1957 - namely 13 (18 in 1956).

Whilst there has been a decrease in the figures in (i) and (ii) and whilst the figures in categories (iii) and (iv) remain stationary and no cases of food poisoning were notified during the year, the general picture may be said to be more or less satisfactory. There is, however, one cause of death which has increased 100% - namely deaths caused by motor vehicle accidents. In 1956 two persons were killed, in 1957 two persons were killed and in 1958 four persons were killed. This seems to be in keeping with the general picture throughout the country.

It should be noted that no cases of Poliomyelitis were notified during the year, which result may probably be due to the intensive vaccination against this disease which has been in operation throughout the area for some time past.


I wish to thank the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee, the Clerk of the Council, the Members of the Staff of the Public Health Department and the Health Visitor for the help and co-operation which I received from them during the year.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

F.J. MURRAY

Medical Officer of Health.



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# PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICIALS FOR THE AUTHORITY

## Medical Officer of Health

F.J. Murray D.P.H.

## Deputy Medical Officer of Health

C. Arthur M.B., B.CH.

## Senior Public Health Inspector (Also Engineer and Surveyor)

E.W.E. Hall

A.R.I.C.S., M.I.Mun.E., M.R.S.H.  
(Resigned 5.2.58)

A. Ainley

A.F.S., M.R.S.I., Dip.R.I.P.H., C.S.I.B.  
(Commenced 1.3.58)

## Additional Public Health Inspector

W.A. Stocker

Cert. S.I.B., Certified Meat Inspector

### Clerks

Mrs. P.Platt (formerly Miss P. Downs)

Miss S.M. Grocott (resigned 18.10.58)

Miss S.J. Costello (commenced 20.10.58)

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## GENERAL STATISTICS OF THE AREA.

Area (In Acres) .....	1,921
Population (General Registrar) .....	8,800
Number of inhabited houses and flats .....	2,870
Population density per house .....	3.07
Rateable Value .....	£87,978
Sum represented by a penny rate .....	£341

## INDUSTRIES

Boots and Shoes	Electrical Insulators
Brewing	Tiles
Scientific and Industrial Glassware	Rubber Mouldings
Farms	Light Industries



## NOTES ON STATISTICS

### Population.

The population of the area in 1958 was 8,800 which is a decrease of 20 (1957 - 8,820).

### Births.

The number of live births in the area for 1958 amounted to 118, which is an increase of 18 on the figure for 1957. This gives a live birth rate figure of 13.4. The figure for England and Wales being 16.4.

### Deaths.

The total number of deaths from all causes, (including inward transferable deaths) in the area totalled 113. This is a decrease of 33 from the figure for 1957 and gives a death rate for the area of 12.8. The figure for England and Wales being 11.7. The number of Stone inhabitants who died during the year totalled 74, which gives a death rate of 8.4 (adjusted figure = 5.8).

### Infant Deaths.

Only 1 death occurred during the year in infants under 1 year old and no deaths in children under 4 weeks old. (1957 figures were respectively 6 and 3).

### National Assistance Act.

No action under this Act was taken during the year.

### Food Poisoning.

No cases of Food Poisoning were notified during the year. The Food Hygiene Regulations seemed to be well observed by shopkeepers. All food shops are visited regularly by the Public Health Inspectors.

### Notifiable and Infectious Diseases.

The number of cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year amounted to 10. (The figure for 1957 was 50). Table IV gives the complete list for the year (excluding Pulmonary Tuberculosis).

### Vital Statistics.

These figures give particulars of the births and deaths rates for the area during 1958 and are compared with the rates for England and Wales.

	Live Births		Still Births		Deaths of infants under 1yr.		Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Legitimate.	63	51	1	-	1	-	-	-
Illegitimate.	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	65	53	1	-	1	-	-	-

### Maternal Mortality

No cases of maternal mortality, either due to abortion or from other causes, occurred in the Urban District during the year.

### Birth and Death Rate

Comparability Factors.	Births 0.98	Deaths 0.70
	<u>Stone U.D.</u>	<u>Eng. &amp; Wales.</u>
Live Births per 1,000 population	13.4	16.4
Live Births per 1,000 population adjusted	13.1	
Still Births per 1,000 Live and Still Births	8.4	21.6
Corrected death rate per 1,000 population	12.8	11.7
Corrected death rate per 1,000 population adjusted	8.9	
Death rate, infants under 1 year per 1,000 Live Births	8.4	22.5
Death rate, infants under 4 weeks per 1,000 Live Births	Nil	16.2

# ANALYSIS OF CAUSES OF DEATHS

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-	-
2. Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease	-	-	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-	-
6. Meningo-coccal infections	-	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8. Measles	-	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	-	1	1
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	3	-	3
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	1	1
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	1	1
14. Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	5	8	13
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	-	1
16. Diabetes	-	-	-
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	8	22	30
18. Coronary disease, angina	7	6	13
19. Hypertension with heart disease	2	2	4
20. Other heart disease	6	9	15
21. Other circulatory disease	4	4	8
22. Influenza	-	-	-
23. Pneumonia	-	1	1
24. Bronchitis	2	1	3
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	2	1	3
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	-	-
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-	-
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	1	-	1
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	1	-	1
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	1	4	5
33. Motor vehicle accidents	4	-	4
34. All other accidents	1	1	2
35. Suicide	2	1	3
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-
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Totals.	50	63	113
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>



# INFECTIOUS AND NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

The following table shows the number of infectious and notifiable diseases sent in by Medical Practitioners during the year 1958.

DISEASE	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	Total 1958	Total 1957
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	1	1	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	8
Measles	1	1	-	1	3	33
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia, Acute Primary	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis, Non-Paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	1	-	-	-	1	1
Meningococcal Infection	-	1	-	-	1	-
Opthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	3

## TUBERCULOSIS

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
On Register at 31.12.57	25	13	-	1
New cases notified or transferred in during 1958	4	2	1	-
Deaths during 1958	-	-	-	1
Removed from Register on transfer out or recovery during 1958.	8	2	1	-
Total remaining on Register at 31.12.58.	21	13	-	-

REPORT OF SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR ON  
SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

The following table summarises the inspections made during the year for all purposes :-

	<u>No. of Inspections.</u>	<u>Notices Informal.</u>
Drainage	73	3
Water Supply	9	-
Refuse Collection and Disposal	60	22
Improvement Grants	123	-
Dwelling Houses - Repairs	183	29
"      "      - Demolition	37	-
"      "      - Slum Clearance	174	-
Housing Applications and Overcrowding	178	-
Tents, Vans, Sheds.	11	-
Canal Boats	4	-
Infectious Diseases	3	-
Verminous and Dirty Premises	11	-
Insect Control	16	-
Rodent      "	15	4
Keeping of Animals	8	-
Pet Animals Act	1	-
Factories	35	1
Workplaces	-	-
Outworkers	1	-
Means of Escape (Factories)	19	-
Petroleum Storage	48	-
Smoke Abatement	9	2
Schools	3	-
Shops (Health Provisions)	22	2
Private Slaughterhouses - Meat Inspection	404	3
Butchers Shops	22	-
Ice Cream Premises	24	-
Dairies	15	1
Cafes, Canteens	12	-
Food Poisoning	-	-
Foodshops and Licensed Premises	161	11
Rent Act 1957	10	-
Miscellaneous	153	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals.	1781	75
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## 1. Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

Samples of the effluent discharged from the Sewage Disposal Works have been taken by the County Health Department and all have complied with the standard suggested by the Royal Commission.

Details of soil and storm sewage 1955-1958:-

Year.	Soil sewage treated at Disposal Works Gallons	Storm water treated at Pumping Station Gallons	Total Gallons	Rainfall
1955	159,947,000	10,998,560	170,945,560	27.7
1956	155,283,000+	9,788,360	165,071,360	26.98
1957	199,933,000	11,602,760	211,535,760	29.99
1958	185,894,000	13,476,146	199,370,146	38.03

+ Includes an estimated quantity for two days during which meters were not operating.

Construction of the six additional sludge drying beds was completed in January, 1958.

As a result of constant supervision at the Sewage Disposal Works, it has been possible to maintain the standard of the effluent discharged.

## 2. Drainage.

The detailed supervision of all drainage works has been continued in connection with repairs and improvements to existing system and also of new work.

## 3. Pail Closets and Septic Tanks.

There are now 11 houses with pail closets and 23 houses with septic tanks in the area. The pail closet emptying service was maintained.

## 4. Water Supply.

The Staffordshire Potteries Water Board provide the water supply for the town. The excellent bacteriological quality has been maintained during the year. Reports on samples taken are regularly submitted by the Board.

9 visits were made to premises in connection with water supply.

New supplies during 1958 - 32 new houses or bungalows were connected to the mains.



## 5. Refuse Collection and Disposal.

Two vehicles are now operated on this service and a weekly collection is maintained.

The second area of land to be reclaimed by refuse tipping at Westbridge Park has now been filled up and preliminary levelling by bulldozer and scraper carried out. This area is now ready for conversion to further playing fields.

A new refuse tip was brought into use at Abbey Street, but this land is only suitable for winter use. It will be necessary to acquire further land in the district for refuse disposal as the present facilities are very limited. Some difficulty is being experienced in finding suitable sites within easy reach of the Urban area.

During the year the supply of covering material was maintained from road works and the demolition of properties under the Slum Clearance Scheme.

### Salvage.

The collection and disposal of waste paper, containers and rags has been maintained. Scrap iron and other metals are separated and salvaged but metal containers (cans) are not recovered.

Table of Salvage Disposal  
1st January to 31st December  
1958

	T.	C.	Q.	£.	s.	d.
Waste Paper and Cardboard	106	1	2	709.	4.	5.
Rags	4	0	2	60.	10.	9.
Scrap Iron	6	16	0	33.	18.	6.
	<hr/>			<hr/>		
	116.	18.	0.	803.	13.	8.
	<hr/>			<hr/>		



## HOUSING

6. 15 bungalows, 4 flats and 6 houses were completed during 1958, together with 4 other houses almost completed. A further Contract for 11 bungalows and 8 flats was prepared and put in hand in respect of the Elm Road site.

During the year 20 housing units of new and existing dwelling accommodation were again provided for slum clearance purposes. Site works have continued on one private housing estate in the area. This estate has a potential value of 38 housing units, five of which have been constructed and occupied.

Application for Improvement Grants continue to be made and are granted by the Authority. This scheme appears only to attract owner/occupiers for the most part.

Table 1. - Number of houses erected during the year:-

(i)	By Local Authority	6 houses 15 bungalows 4 flats
(ii)	" other Local Authorities	2 "
(iii)	" private enterprise	7 "
(iv)	" Ministry of Supply	Nil
		<hr/>
		15 houses 15 bungalows 4 flats
		<hr/>

Table 2. - Number of houses owned by the Council on the 31st December, 1958, built under the provisions of the various Housing Acts :-

Erected during the years 1919 - 1940 -	276	(and remaining in the Council's possession).
1947 -	10	
1948 -	72	
1949 -	56	
1950 -	20	
1951 -	6	
1952 -	28	
1953 -	86	
1954 -	54	
1955 -	32 + 4 flats	
1956 -	71 + 4 houses transferred	
1957 -	35	
1958 -	25	
		<hr/>
Total Houses, Flats and Bungalows	779	
		<hr/>

## 7. Inspection and repair of dwelling houses.

During the year 29 informal notices were served for repairs in private houses. The majority of these notices were complied with and the work satisfactorily carried out.

### Inspection.

1. (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (Under Public Health and Housing Acts) ... .. 195
- (b) Number of inspections made for the above purpose 357
2. Number of houses in 1-5 years slum clearance programme 122
3. Properties demolished or closed in 1958 ... .. 20
4. Remaining occupied in 1-5 years programme ... .. 12
5. Number of houses remaining in the 5-20 years programme 295

### Remedy of Defects.

Number of houses repaired, rendered fit or improved in consequence of formal action ... 1

Number of dwelling houses repaired, rendered fit or improved in consequence of informal action ... .. 27

Number of dwelling houses rendered fit or improved in consequence of voluntary action by owner ... .. 14

## 8. Demolition of dwelling houses.

The 1-5 years slum clearance programme was implemented during the year and the necessary accommodation made available for re-housing displaced families. Every effort was made to house families in the particular area of the town and in the type of accommodation they requested.

Number of houses demolished as a result of formal action ... .. 16

Further statutory Demolition Orders served (property to be demolished in the following year) ... .. 15

Closing Orders made under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1957 ... .. 22

9. Overcrowding and rehousing.

Allocation of new units have been primarily made for slum clearance tenants and the remaining new units have been allocated under the points system. 16 Council houses became vacant during the year and these were re-allocated mainly under the points system.

10. Moveable Dwellings.

Two areas of land were again used without consent for the parking of caravans. The sites were eventually cleared by informal action.

Private canal cruising boats are hired out for holiday travel by a Stone Company. A fair number of pleasure craft now use the Trent and Mersey Canal during the summer.

11. Dirty and Verminous Premises.

Visits were made to 5 dirty houses and the necessary instructions and advice given to secure their cleansing.

12. Rodent Control.

One treatment was carried out to the sewer system of the town, only a minor infestation being found. Regular treatment of the refuse tip and other surface installations has been carried out.

Details of treatments other than sewers are as shown in the following table :-

	Local Authority.	Dwelling Houses.	Agric- ultural.	All other purposes
<u>Rats.</u>				
Major infestations	Nil	1	Nil	1
Minor "	3	76	Nil	8
<u>Mice.</u>				
Major infestations	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Minor "	Nil	7	Nil	Nil

13. Pet Animals Act.

One shop licence was renewed for this purpose. No contraventions occurred.



#### 14. Factories.

Number on Register ...	...	40
Number of inspections for		
all purposes ...	...	36

Considerable effort was made to visit all factories not already provided with a Certificate of Means of Escape in Case of Fire under Section 34 of the Factories Act. At the end of the year only two factories had not been supplied with these Certificates.

#### 15. Smoke Abatement.

The general response and co-operation of industry within the Urban area has been good. One firm has commenced a conversion scheme from coal fired to gas fired kilns and so far two kilns have been converted.

One informal notice was abated.

Considerable nuisance is frequently experienced from grit and ash emissions from the Central Electricity Generating Board's Meaford Power Station situated in the adjoining Rural district. It is understood that the Stone Rural District Council have pursued this matter with the Board but so far the nuisance remains unabated.

#### 16. Shops Act.

Regular visits to shops in the area have been maintained.

70 inspections were carried out. A separate Shops Act Report has been submitted to the Council.

#### 17. Inspection and Supervision of Food.

##### Meat Inspection.

The annual licences for three private slaughterhouses were renewed and various improvements have been carried out. Regular meat inspection is carried out at these slaughterhouses. The meat produced is retailed in three private Butchers' Shops. The remaining shops have their meat supplies delivered from adjoining areas.

All animals slaughtered are inspected as soon as possible. Their quality is generally very good.

Meat and Offals found unfit : 1 Ton 16 Cwts 16 lbs.

Number of Animals Slaughtered : 540 Cattle 27 Calves 2365 Sheep 559 Pigs



Inspection and Supervision of Food (Continued).

Cysticercus Bovis.

8 beef cattle were found to be infected with this parasite.

Bovine livers were found to be much affected by Fascioliasis and represent almost all of the offal found unfit for human consumption.

The number of animals infected with Tuberculosis was again low, only 1 pig being infected with generalised Tuberculosis.

All meat surrendered as unfit is coloured green and either forwarded for animal feeding products or destroyed at the refuse tip.

Details of carcasses and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part are shown in the following table.

PRIVATE SLAUGHTERHOUSES

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	540	-	27	2365	559	-
Number inspected	540	-	27	2365	559	-
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis &amp; Cysticerci</u> Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	2	3	-
Carcasses of which some organ or part was condemned.	210	-	-	135	22	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci.	38.9%	-	-	5.8%	4.5%	-
<u>Tuberculosis Only:</u> Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some organ or part was condemned	30	-	-	-	9	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	5.6%	-	-	-	1.8%	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u> Carcasses of which some organ or part was condemned.	8	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

18. Ice Cream.

Number of premises registered for sale of pre-packed  
ice cream at 31st December, 1958 ... .. 24

Number of the above actually selling ice cream ... 18

Number of new registrations during the year ... .. 1

All premises in the district sell pre-packed ice cream. From time to time throughout the year samples were submitted for bacteriological examination. The results were as follows :-

Provisional Grade 1	16 samples
" " 2	Nil
" " 3	"
" " 4	"

These results are highly satisfactory as all samples were up to standard.

19. Milk.

During the year the County Authority have taken the following samples in this area :-

Samples for bacteriological examination	-	71
" " biological test for Tuberculosis	-	4

NOTE: 1 cow dealt with under Tuberculosis Order.

All the 4 samples tested for Tuberculosis proved negative and those submitted for bacteriological examination were satisfactory. 5 samples failed the Methylene Blue Test.

20. Inspection of Food Handling Premises.

Frequent routine visits have been made to all food premises, with particular regard to food hygiene. 11 notices were served to implement the requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations and all work required was satisfactorily carried out. Several warnings were given about smoking in food premises. Many more shops have installed frozen food cabinets (display etc.).

21. Inspection of Food (excluding Meat at Slaughterhouses).

The following are the total amounts of food other than meat at slaughterhouses, voluntary surrender of which has been accepted:-

Imported Meat, Canned Meat and Meat Products	86 lbs.
Other Foods ... ..	146 lbs.







